Claims

1. Method for transferring data to a client using a certain packet data connection, said method comprising the steps of:

- receiving a request, which is according to a certain data transfer protocol and specifies a certain information entity,

- sending, using said packet data connection, at a first time instant to said client a first portion of a response according to said data transfer protocol, said client after receipt of said first portion being arranged to accept further at least a further response, and

- sending, using said packet data connection, at sequential second time instants to said client a plurality of second portions of a response, each of said second portions comprising an information fragment of said information entity and computer language instructions for processing said information fragment.

2. A method according to Claim 1, wherein

- the time period between the first time instant and the earliest second time instant is at maximum a certain first predetermined time period, and

- a time period between two sequential second time instants is at maximum a certain second predetermined time period.

3. A method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of:

- sending, using said packet data connection, at sequential third time instants to said client a plurality of third portions of a response, said third portions containing no information fragments specific to said information entity.

4. A method according to Claim 3, wherein at least one of said third portions contains only computer language headers.

5. A method according to Claim 3, wherein at least one of said third portions contains only carriage return and/or linefeed characters.

6. A method according to Claim 3, wherein

- the time period between the first time instant and the earliest second time instant is at maximum a certain first predetermined time period, and

- a time period between two sequential time instants of the second and third time instants is at maximum a certain second predetermined time period.

7. A method according to Claim 3, wherein said packet data connection is a Transfer Control Protocol connection, said data transfer protocol is Hypertext

Transfer Protocol, said request is a Hypertext Transfer Protocol Request, the response, whereof said first portion constitutes a part, is a Hypertext Transfer Protocol Response and said first portion leaves Content-Length field value unknown.

5   8. A method according to Claim 7, wherein said computer language is a scripting language, scripting tags constitute said computer language instructions and said client is a browser program.

9.   A method according to Claim 1, wherein said first portion does not specify the size of the response, whereof said first portion constitutes a part.

10   10.   A method according to Claim 1, wherein said information fragment in at least one of said second portions is an information fragment relating to a change in said requested information entity, said change being made after said first time instant.

11.   A method according to Claim 1, wherein said packet data connection is a Transfer Control Protocol connection, said data transfer protocol is Hypertext

15   Transfer Protocol, said request is a Hypertext Transfer Protocol Request, and the response, whereof said first portion constitutes a part, is a Hypertext Transfer Protocol Response.

12.   A method according to Claim 11, wherein said first portion leaves Content-Length field value unknown.

20   13. A method according to Claim 12, wherein said computer language is a scripting language, scripting tags constitute said computer language instructions and said client is a browser program.

14.   A method according to Claim 1, wherein said computer language is a scripting language.

25   15.   A method according to Claim 14, wherein said scripting language is JavaScript, VBScript or JScript.

16.   A method according to Claim 14, wherein scripting language tags constitute said computer language instructions.

17.   A method according to Claim 1, wherein said computer language is Extensible

30   Markup Language.

18. A method according to Claim 17, wherein Extensible Markup Language elements constitute said computer language instructions and said information fragments.

19. A method according to Claim 18, wherein said first portion comprises starting headers of an Extensible Markup Language document.

20. A method according to Claim 17, wherein said packet data connection is a Transfer Control Protocol connection, said data transfer protocol is Hypertext Transfer Protocol, said request is a Hypertext Transfer Protocol Request, the response, whereof said first portion constitutes a part, is a Hypertext Transfer Protocol Response, and said first portion leaves Content-Length field value unknown.

21. A method according to Claim 20, wherein said client is a browser program.

22. A method according to Claim 21, further comprising the step of:
- sending, using said packet data connection, at sequential third time instants to said client a plurality of third portions of a response, said third portions containing no information fragments specific to said information entity.

23. A method according to Claim 1, wherein said client is a browser program.

24. A system for transferring data using packet data connections, said system comprising
- means for establishing packet data connections,
- means for receiving requests, a request indicating an information entity, being according to a data transfer protocol and relating to a certain packet data connection,
- means for sending as response to a request, using a request-specific packet data connection and at a request-specific first time instant, a first portions of a response according to said data transfer protocol, a client after receipt of said first portion being arranged to accept further at least a second portion of a response, and
- means for sending as a response to a request, using said request-specific packet data connection at sequential request-specific second time instants, a plurality of second portions of a response, each of said second portions comprising an information fragment of said information entity and computer language instructions for processing said information fragment.

25. A system according to Claim 24 wherein it is arranged to send the second responses relating to a certain request so that

- the time period between the request-specific first time instant and the earliest request-specific second time instant is at maximum a certain first predetermined time period, and

- a time period between two sequential request-specific second time instants is at maximum a certain second predetermined time period.

26.   A system according to Claim 24, further comprising means for sending as a response to a request, using said request-specific packet data connection, at sequential request-specific third time instants a plurality of third portions of a response, said third portions containing no information fragments of said information entity.

27.   A system according to Claim 26, wherein it is arranged to send the second and third portions relating to a certain request so that

- the time period between the request-specific first time instant and the earliest request-specific second time instant is at maximum a certain first predetermined time period, and

- a time period between two sequential time instants of the request-specific second and third time instants is at maximum a certain second predetermined time period.

28.   A system according to Claim 24, wherein it resides in a server.

29.   Computer program product for a system for transferring data using packet data connections, the computer program product comprising

- computer code means for sending as response to a request, using a request-specific packet data connection and at a request-specific first time instant, a first portions of a response according to a data transfer protocol, a receiver after receipt of said first portion being arranged to accept further at least a second portion of a response, and

- computer code means for sending as a response to a request, using said request-specific packet data connection at sequential request-specific second time instants, a plurality of second portions of a response, each of said second portions comprising an information fragment of said information entity and computer language instructions for processing said information fragment.

30.   Computer program product according to claim 29, wherein it is stored on a computer readable medium.